

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

REMEMBERING LISA MARIE PRESLEY

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 24, 2023

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in profound sadness to mark the passing of a daughter of Memphis and a world-renowned ambassador of American music and culture, Lisa Marie Presley. Lisa Marie passed on January 12 at the age of 54. Her life was celebrated this past Sunday at Graceland, in Memphis, where she is buried with her father, Elvis, and her 27-year-old son, Benjamin Storm Keough, in the mansion's Memorial Garden. Lisa Marie was born in Memphis on February 1, 1968, and the event made headlines around the world. She remained in the limelight throughout her life, bestowing her charm on her hometown by unveiling the U.S. postage stamp honoring her father in Memphis, leading her own musical career, nurturing her father's legacy, and remembering Graceland as a place of refuge even though she was there when her father passed away in 1977. As befits a rock 'n roll legend with 3 well-regarded studio albums, she was given a star-studded send off on a cold and dreary day with her mother, Priscilla, reciting a poem; Sarah, the Duchess of York and a friend, remembering her lost son; and Alanis Morissette, Billy Corgan, the Blackwood Brothers Quartet, and Axl Rose offering musical tributes. The service was bookended by Jason Clark and The Tennessee Mass Choir, who began with "Amazing Grace." It was an honor to attend the celebration of her life in front of Graceland along with "Elvis" director Baz Luhrmann; actor Austin Butler, who portrayed Elvis in Luhrmann's film; Jerry Schilling, one of Elvis' closest friends and a family confidante; former Memphis and Shelby County Mayor A C Wharton; Memphis Mayor Jim Strickland; and an estimated 5,000 fans. I wish to express my deepest condolences to Lisa Marie's mother, my friend Priscilla, Lisa Marie's daughters, actress Riley Keough and twins Harper Vivienne Ann Lockwood and Finley Aaron Love Lockwood, and all who knew and loved her.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF CITY MANAGER CATHERINE COOK

HON. BRUCE WESTERMAN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 24, 2023

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the service of Ms. Catherine Cook of Hope, Arkansas.

Ms. Cook has honorably served the city of Hope since 1990 and has been City Manager since 1996. Local officials like Ms. Cook are the backbone of America, as they assess and

address the needs of their communities. As City Manager, she was instrumental in maintaining and improving the infrastructure of the City of Hope. She has also been active in the community outside of her work as City Manager. This work helped Hope flourish, and the impact of her projects are being felt daily by local families and businesses. Thanks to all that Ms. Cook has done, future generations of Hope residents will have a legacy they can build on and be proud to share.

Mr. Speaker, I thank City Manager Cook for her 32 years of service and dedication to the people of Hope.

CELEBRATING THE RETIREMENT OF MARZETTE "MARZY" BEDFORD-BILLINGHURST, LONGTIME FEDERAL EMPLOYEE AND CIVIL SERVANT

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 24, 2023

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor a woman who has contributed so much to this Congress and this country: Marzette 'Marzy' Bedford-Billinghurst. After more than 3 decades in federal service, she recently began her well-earned retirement. As someone who has had the privilege of working closely with Marzy in the past, I can personally attest to her virtues as a sharp, dedicated, and generous federal civil servant and American. She deserves recognition for her many deeds in service to this Nation.

Our work together began back in 1988 when Marzy joined my legislative staff. As my Senior Legislative Assistant, she quickly became an indispensable advisor on a broad range of issues. From formulating and drafting key legislation to taking meetings with constituents and stakeholders, Marzy approached every part of the job with admirable enthusiasm and poise. She brought that same work ethic to the House Committee on the District of Columbia in 1993. Although we were sad to see Marzy leave our team, we knew she would always go wherever she was able to make the biggest difference in the lives of her fellow Americans. Indeed, that's what took her to the Department of Labor in 1995.

As an important official in DOL's Women's Bureau, Marzy was at the forefront of the effort to create more equitable and inclusive workplaces for women across the Nation. She helped advance initiatives addressing everything from sexual harassment to gender, wage, and pregnancy discrimination in the workplace. Marzy also understood that faithful service to the federal government requires one to hold it to the same principles of equality, justice, and freedom that underpin our entire democracy. That's why she pushed DOL to create designated rooms in its headquarters where mothers could breastfeed and pump in privacy. Marzy's unyielding devotion to her

crucial work earned her dozens of awards and honors over the years—including Vice President Al Gore's Hammer Award and, most recently, DOL's Distinguished Career Service Award. Anyone boasting such an impressive list of accomplishments and accolades could rest easy knowing they did far more than their fair share to leave their country better than they found it. Marzy's commitment to service, however, extended beyond her career.

Throughout her decades working for the federal government, Marzy continued to devote much of her spare time to bettering her community. Between 2005 and 2012, for instance, she served as a House Manager for the Sacred Heart House Temporary Homeless Shelter for Women and Children in Denver, supporting women and families in need face-to-face. She also has served on the Board of Directors of the Denver chapter of Parents, Families, and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG). After Hurricane Katrina devastated numerous communities in 2005, Marzy stepped up and volunteered to help with relief efforts for 30 days as part of a DOL delegation to the Federal Emergency Management Administration. Marzy made all these contributions through her work and her volunteering while simultaneously raising 2 incredible sons, Kahler and Cameron, with her husband Mark. If that weren't enough, her neighbors also entrusted her to serve as the captain of their local Democratic precinct and as their delegate to the Democratic National Convention in 2008. They recognized what I and everyone else who has had the pleasure to know Marzy have seen: she is a person of integrity—someone who will always stand up for what is right.

That will remain true even as Marzy begins her retirement from federal service. I have no doubt that she will continue to help those in need, strengthen her community, and speak up for the principles she devoted her career to promoting. I often say that dedication and reliability are the 2 most critical traits in our federal civil service. Marzy exemplifies both. She has inspired many to follow in her footsteps and serve our country. Although the many friends and colleagues Marzy has made over the years will surely miss her guidance and expertise, I know I speak for all of us in wishing her and her family well as she begins this exciting new chapter. She has my thanks as well as the gratitude of this House and the American people. May Marzy enjoy a happy and satisfying retirement. She has earned it.

APPRECIATING MRS. JACKIE AUTRY'S REFUGEE STAND

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 24, 2023

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend a great American for her inspiring clarion call to support refugees. Jackie Autry, the widow of the crooning cowboy singer and

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